equipments, shortage of staff, lack of ventilation in the kitchen, lack of cleanliness in the kitchen, non-maintenance of personal hygiene by the staff etc. therein.

As a follow-up action thereto, Assistance Manager, Delhi region has been shifted, Catering Supervisor, Delhi has been suspended and charge sheeted for major penalty under Discipline and Appeals Rules Action against Chief Inspector, Catering, Base Kitchen and Chief Inspector, Catering, Delhi have also been taken.

Complaints regarding catering services are investigated by Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) and suitable penal/ remedial action is taken.

(d) to (e) The Passenger Amenities Committee constituted *vide* Ministry of Railways' Resolution dated 18.07.2005 was dissolved with effect from 27.9.2005 due to resignation of the Chairman of the Committee.

Mobile train radio communication network

2389. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of mobile train radio communication network to be introduced by Railways on moving trains;

(b) the time-frame for this system to become functional on all moving trains;

(c) what is the project cost and what technology this system would use;

(d) whether the system is tested in any other country; and

(e) if so, the details and results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) As per the Railway Safety Review Committee recommendations which is accepted by Ministry of Railways, the Mobile Train Radio Communication (MTRC) is to be introduced on A, B, & C routes of Indian Railways. Of this, work on 3200 RKM (Route Kilometre) on Northern Railway, North Central Railway, East Central Railway, Eastern Railway and Northeast Frontier Railway has been sanctioned and is under execution.

(b) The work sanctioned on 3200 RKM is likely to be completed by December, 2007.

(c) The work on 3200 RKM has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 267.93 crores. The system uses Global System of Mobile Communication for Railways GSM-(R) technology which has been standardized by International Union of Railways (UIC).

(d) and (e) The GSM-(R) based systems have been installed and are working on various foreign railways i.e. in Germany, Switzerland, Spain, Italy, France, United Kingdom, Sweden, Norway, China, etc. .

Plantation of Jatropha on Railways' arid land

2390. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways is using its arid land (18,000 hectares) for the plantation of Jatropha;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Railways is also using bio-diesel; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Railways have been undertaking plantation including Jatropha on its land with a view to improve environment as well as protecting its land from encroachment. However, no separate railway land has been earmarked for undertaking plantation of Jatropha. So far, over one hundred lakh Jatropha trees have been planted.

(c) and (d) Railways is using bio-diesel in limited way as availability at economical price is a constraint.

Doubling of tracks in Southern Railway

2391. SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the length of doubling of track works completed in Southern Railway during 2005-06;